

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: § **ATTY DOCKET NO: RHLPAT011US**
Hector F. A. VAN DRENTHAM-SUSMAN §
§ **Group Art Unit: 3682**
Serial No.: 09/890,714 §
§
Filed: August 3, 2001 §
§ **Examiner:** Footland, Lenard A.
For: THRUST BEARING FOR §
DOWN-HOLE TOOL §

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to requirement for restriction mailed August 28, 2002 concerning the captioned application, kindly consider the following:

The basis for the requirement is said to be that the application contains patentably distinct species which are shown respectively in Figures 1-2 and Figure 3. The requirement is to elect one of these species and to list all claims readable thereon.

In response, the species of Figures 1-2 is provisionally elected. Claims 1-21 and 23-34 are readable thereon.

The restriction requirement is traversed and reconsideration is requested. The specification states, from page 10, line 18 through page 11, line 5:

“There are a number of options that can improve the design of the bearing unit 10 so that the initial Brinelling on a first inner spacer can be reduced, eg:

1. Increase the groove 510 depth to increase the flex and assist in load

sharing.;

2. Incorporate an extra inner spacer to ensure the spring rate on the first body raceway and the rest of the raceways are the same.

Referring now to Fig. 3, there is illustrated a portion of a downhole tool, generally designated 5A, according to a second embodiment of the present invention. The tool 5A is similar to the tool 5 of the first embodiment, like parts being denoted by like integers but suffixed 'A'. However, the tool 5A differs from the tool 5 in providing a extra inner spacer 700'A so as to seek to provide the advantage offered by (2) above."

In other words, Figure 3 discloses a second embodiment modified by addition of a feature, and claim 22 incorporates the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims. In view of this, it is requested that the Examiner exercise discretion, withdraw the requirement, and act on all pending claims.

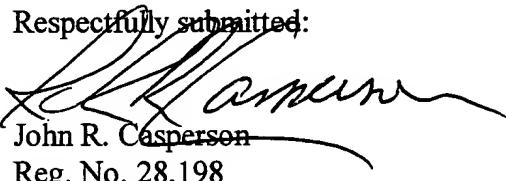
Early notice of allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

Please mail correspondence to:

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Respectfully submitted:


John R. Casperson
Reg. No. 28,198

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the following papers are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, FAX NO: 703-305-7687 on the date shown below.

1. A Response to a Restriction Requirement dated August 29, 2002. (3 pages including this cover)

30 September 2002
(Date)


John R. Casperson Reg. No. 28,198

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Fax History Report for
Law Offc. John Casperson
281-482-3968
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